## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

BARBARA E. VARNER, :

Plaintiff: CIVIL ACTION: NO. 1:CV 01-0725

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, : JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, CUMBERLAND

COUNTY; S. GARETH GRAHAM, individually; : JUDGE YVETTE KANE

and JOSEPH OSENKARSKI, individually,

V.

## MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

**NOW COMES DEFENDANT**, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Ninth Judicial District ("Court Defendant"), by and through its undersigned Counsel and moves this Honorable Court pursuant to F.R.C.P., Rule 56, to grant summary judgment in its favor, averring in support thereof, as follows:

- 1. Plaintiff cannot establish a prima facie case of sexual harassment under Title VII.
  - a. Plaintiff cannot meet her burden of showing that her workplace was permeated with discriminatory intimidation, ridicule, and insult, that was sufficiently severe or pervasive to alter the conditions of her employment and create an abusive working environment. Therefore, summary judgment must be granted.
  - b. Respondent superior liability is negated by prompt remedial action; the Court Defendant is insulated from liability by the affirmative defense enunciated in the Supreme Court's decisions in <u>Ellerth</u> and <u>Faragher</u>.
- 2. Plaintiff cannot establish a *prima facie* case of retaliation because she cannot show that she was subjected to any adverse employment action as a result of her protected conduct, nor is there a causal link between Plaintiff's protected activity and the alleged retaliation.

WHEREFORE, Defendant, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Ninth Judicial District, Court of Common Pleas of Cumberland County, respectfully requests that this Court grant summary judgment in its favor.

Respectfully submitted,

s/A. Taylor Williams

A. TAYLOR WILLIAMS, ESQUIRE
Attorney I.D. No. PA33149
Administrative Office of PA Courts
1515 Market Street, Suite 1414
Philadelphia, PA 19102
legaldepartment@pacourts.us
(215) 560-6300, Fax: (215) 560-5486
Attorney For Court Defendant
Cmwlth. of Pennsylvania, Ninth Judicial District,
Cumberland County Court Of Common Pleas